

March 24, 2010

Representative Bryce Edgmon, Co-Chair
Representative Charisse Millett, Co-Chair
House Energy Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: HB 182

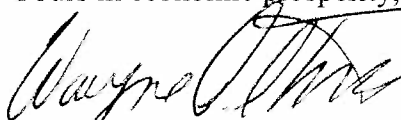
The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce supports HB 182, which would establish the Greater Railbelt Energy and Transmission Corporation. The railbelt energy corporation will ultimately meet the railbelt's long-term electric power needs with stable, reliable and affordable power. The State Chamber believes combining efforts between multiple utilities will provide for long-term sustainable power solutions for the region.

Our economy is dependent upon stable, reliable and affordable energy. A private-public partnership that combines the entrepreneurial aspects of private enterprise with the backing of the state will meet the challenges facing all electric utilities within the railbelt region. HB 182 combines these power efforts and will lead to additional benefits by diversifying energy options from fossil fuels to renewable and other alternative energy sources. We understand the utilities are currently working out their differences with the legislation, but trying to gain 100% conformity to one bill is certainly a challenge.

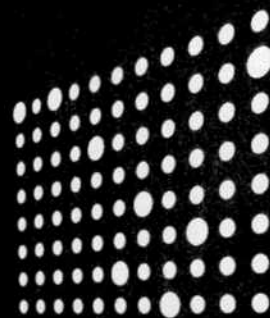
The future of Alaska's energy future must begin by starting the planning process today. HB 182 moves the region forward in uniting energy needs with commonalities that will ultimately provide cheaper and better alternatives for all of the region's businesses and habitants alike.

We support the legislation and hope you are able to move the concept forward.

Yours in economic prosperity,



Wayne A. Stevens
President/CEO



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